



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Associate Vicar: The Rev'd Canon Paul Richardson. Tel 01793 710241

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Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

Sunday 19th September Trinity 16



Please do not come into church if you think you may have symptoms of Covid 19.

For the time being we will continue to ask you to wear a mask during services, to observe social distancing and either to sign in or use the QR code.

Should you prefer not to do this, we ask you to be respectful of those who have made a different choice and to give them the space they need.

Hand sanitiser is available.

Holy Communion will continue to be offered in one kind only.

Sunday 19th September

Richard Fergusson is giving today's sermon.

Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) from 9:00am.

7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion (BCP)
9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Matins (BCP)
9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas
Matins (BCP)
9:30am Fernham, St John
Morning Prayer
10:00am Bourton, St James & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion
10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion
11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Morning Prayer in the Celtic Tradition

Tuesday

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)

Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Morning Prayer
10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom.
7:00pm Wednesday Study Group
St Andrew's Vicarage
7:00pm Longcot and Fernham PCC Meeting

Thursday

9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's
9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice, St Andrew's

Saturday

12.30pm Baptism. Shrivenham, St Andrew.

Sunday 26th

9:30am Fernham, St John
Holy Communion
10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Harvest Holy Communion with Choir
11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Holy Communion
3:00pm Benefice Sunday School
Ashbury, St Mary
4:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas
Harvest Festival Songs of Praise
followed by Holy Communion (BCP)

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Wixes Piece.

Wednesday Study Group

The Wednesday Study Group restarted on 15th September, meeting at 10:30am on Zoom, alongside another group which meets in person at 7pm in St Andrew's Vicarage.
From now until Advent we are looking at "The Heart of it All" – a book by Sam Wells which explores the love story between God, creation and humanity.
Don't worry if you missed the first session, you are welcome to attend either group at anytime.

More information and Zoom link from Norma
01793 784338

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Congratulations

to Joanne Straw and Anthony Strachan
who were married at St Andrew's Shrivenham
on Saturday 4th September.



Resumption of Services in Longcot Church

Now that the building work to create the Community Hub in St Mary's is complete, we look forward to welcoming you into church for a United Village Service with the Methodists at 3pm on Sunday 3rd October.
Do join us afterwards for refreshments and a closer look at the transformation.

Welcome

to Papillon Lily Georgina Felton, who was baptised at St Thomas' Watchfield on Saturday 11th September.

Hope and Harmony – Saturday 2nd October

Not long after the pandemic started, people began to ask about how we would celebrate when it was all over and we could “go back to normal.” Little did we know how long that would take: indeed, is still taking. It still seems as if a simple service of celebration would be premature and also, frankly, insensitive when so many people have lost so much. This service, therefore, seeks to combine both the thankfulness and the lamentation in a service of prayer and meditation. It is also harmonious because it is a joint service between the Anglican and Methodist Churches and because we can sing together. In the best traditions of both churches, there will also be cake. Come and join us in St Andrew’s for tea at 4pm, followed by a service at 5pm. We’ll look forward to seeing you there.

Alpha is Back!



Every Monday at 7:30pm
from 4th October to 13th December
in St Andrew’s Church Shrivenham.

Explore life, faith & meaning.
Bring an open mind and an open heart.

More information from Jane Ahern
01793 783521 or thestable@protonmail.com

Ride and Stride – Saturday 11th September

How wonderful to see our Benefice churches open for the sponsored Ride & Stride in aid of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. Half of the money raised is held by the OHCT and used for grants towards renovations and repairs of Oxfordshire churches (most of our Benefice churches have been beneficiaries).

The other half of the sponsorship money goes straight back to the churches nominated by the participants.



The Bourton cyclists

Sarah, Churchwarden from Bourton, and her family managed to cycle to six out of our seven Benefice churches, raising £500 in sponsorship along the way. Well done girls!

St Mary’s Ashbury welcomed twelve cyclists in total, many of whom were delighted that the church now has loo facilities that they could use. Offering refreshments was also a lot easier thanks to the new kitchen! Thanks to Gail Loose who was there all day to greet the visitors.



The new facilities in St Mary’s



On the way back to Broadwell

Thank you to all the volunteers who welcomed visitors into our churches on the day. If you would like to contribute to the fundraising effort, please contact Tony Crabtree who can put you in touch with your local Ride and Stride organiser.
tony.crabtree@talktalk.net or 07860 835903

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Either **Wisdom of Solomon**

1:16 – 2:1. 12-22

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

The ungodly by their words and deeds summoned death; considering him a friend, they pined away and made a covenant with him, because they are fit to belong to his company. For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves, "Short and sorrowful is our life, and there is no remedy when a life comes to its end, and no one has been known to return from Hades. Let us lie in wait for the righteous man, because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; he reproaches us for sins against the law, and accuses us of sins against our training. He professes to have knowledge of God, and calls himself a child of the Lord. He became to us a reproof of our thoughts; the very sight of him is a burden to us, because his manner of life is unlike that of others, and his ways are strange. We are considered by him as something base, and he avoids our ways as unclean; he calls the last end of the righteous happy, and boasts that God is his father. Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life; for if the righteous man is God's child, he will help him, and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries. Let us test him with insult and torture, so that we may find out how gentle he is, and make trial of his forbearance. Let us condemn him to a shameful death, for, according to what he says, he will be protected." Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray, for their wickedness blinded them, and they did not know the secret purposes of God, nor hoped for the wages of holiness, nor

discerned the prize for blameless souls.

Or **Jeremiah 11:18-20**

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

PSALM Psalm 54

R *The Lord sustains my life.*

Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. **R**

For the arrogant have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God. Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life. **R**

Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them. I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes. **R**

SECOND READING

James 3:13 – 4:3. 7-8a

A reading from the letter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy

and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

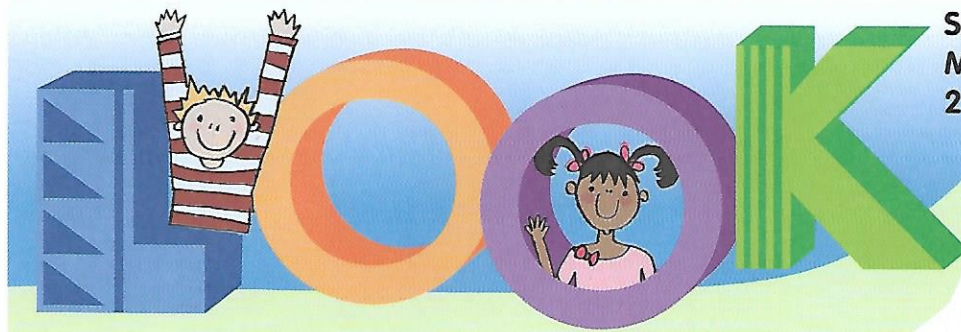
GOSPEL Mark 9:30-37

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 19 September 2021
Mark 9:30-37
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



My name is _____

WHO IS JESUS?

Maze

Jesus travelled through Galilee to Capernaum. Can you help him find his way to the house there?



Word search

FIRST CARE

BEST HELP

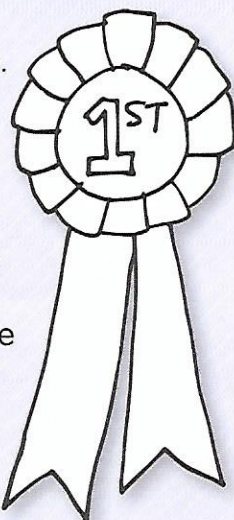
LAST SERVE



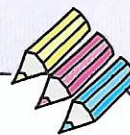
F	I	R	S	T
L	B	E	S	T
A	C	A	R	E
S	E	R	V	E
T	H	E	L	P

Jesus shows us love

Jesus shows us how to love. He shows us how to put other people first. When we put others first we are being like Jesus. Here is a rosette for the winner of a first prize. Colour it red.



How do you think you could win this rosette? Draw a picture to show how you are going to help someone today. You could draw Jesus giving you the rosette.



Unscramble the letters to see who else you welcome when you welcome someone to your home.

SSUJE _ _ _ _

A PRAYER TO SAY

Jesus, I want to be like you. Help me to be happy by serving other people, just like you did. Amen.